



9307/1105-1
DHC
PATENT
Attorney's Docket No. 1232-4421US1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: UEHARA et al.

Group Art Unit: 1765

Serial No.: 09/664,715

Examiner: Kin Chan Chen

Filed : September 19, 2000

For : WAFER PROCESSING APPARATUS, WAFER PROCESSING METHOD, AND
SEMICONDUCTOR SUBSTRATE FABRICATION METHOD

PETITION UNDER 37 CFR §1.181
REQUESTING WITHDRAWAL OF NOTICE OF ABANDONMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicants hereby petition the Commissioner to withdraw the holding of abandonment in the above-identified application. The USPTO mailed a Notice of Abandonment on May 20, 2002 alleging that applicants failed to timely pay the issue fee.

Applicants respectfully request that the holding of abandonment be withdrawn as it is improper in view of the fact that Applicants timely filed a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) before the due date of the issue fee payment for the application. The due date for the issue fee payment was set to expire on April 9, 2002, Applicants filed the RCE on April 1, 2002, along with the requisite filing fees and other necessary documents. Applicants' timely filing of the RCE is clearly evidenced in the enclosed copies of a postcard receipt bearing a filing date stamp of April 1, 2002 and RCE Transmittal.

In view of the above, the Notice of Abandonment is improper and should be withdrawn.

Respectfully submitted,

MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.

Date: June 3, 2002

By: Keats A. Quinalty

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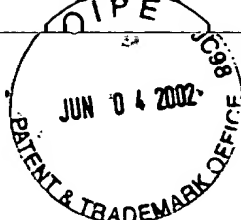
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Serial No.	09/664,715	Docket No.	1232-442	151 Apr 01 2002
Applicant:	UEHARA et al.	Atty.:	KAQ/jx	JC
Filing Date:	9/19/2000	Due Date:	4/9/2002	

The following was/ were received in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date of
April 1, 2002, stamped hereon:

	Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal	<input type="checkbox"/>	Information Disclosure Statement
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preliminary Amendment		<input type="checkbox"/>	PTO-1499 form & 1 copy of cited reference and the foreign Office Action,
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Two Checks for \$740.00 & \$168.00		<input type="checkbox"/>	Request Form for Filing of an IDS.
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts		<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Executed Declaration and POA		<input type="checkbox"/>	CPA Transmittal
<input type="checkbox"/> Priority Document(s) ()		<input type="checkbox"/>	Preliminary Amendment
<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment(s) & Cover Sheet		<input type="checkbox"/>	Fee Address Indication Form
<input type="checkbox"/> Req. to Approve Drawing Changes		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Deposit Account Authorization

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[AFFIX CUSTOMER NUMBER LABEL ABOVE]

**REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. §132, effective on May 29, 2000,
provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application
filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA)

Application No.	09/664,715
Filing Date	September 19, 2000
First Named Inventor	UEHARA et al.
Group Art Unit	1475
Examiner Name	Kin Chan Chen
Atty Docket No.	1232-4421US1

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. §1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. **Submission under 37 C.F.R. §1.114**

- a. ☐ Previously submitted
- i. ☐ Consider and enter the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 previously filed on _____ as a preliminary Amendment.
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____.
- iii. ☐ Other
- b. Enclosed
- i. ☒ Preliminary Amendment
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) and Form PTO-1449
- iv. Other:

2. **Miscellaneous**

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. §1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i) required)
- b. Other

3. **Fees**

The RCE fee under C.F.R. §1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. §1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. ☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 13-4503, Order No. 1232-4421US1.
- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(e)
- ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§1.136 and 1.17)
- iii. ☐ Other
- b. ☒ Two Checks in the amount of \$740.00 & 168.00 enclosed.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Keats A. Quinalty	Reg. No. (Atty/Agent)	46,426
Signature		Date	April 1, 2002